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Control: 15930  
Rec'd: AUGUST 24

7:22 P.M.

1969  
AUG 24  
7:22 P.M.OF EMBASSY AFFAIRS  
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EUR

FROM: BERLIN

Info

TO: Secretary of State

SS

NO: 214, AUGUST 24, 6 P.M.

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SENT DEPARTMENT 214, BONN 199; REPEATED INFORMATION POLAD  
USAREUR 21, LONDON, PARIS, MOSCOW UNNUMBERED.

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PARIS FOR EMBASSY, USRO, CINCEUR THURSTON AND FINN

IRC

REFERENCE: OURTEL 176 TO BONN, 190 TO SECSTATE.

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RMR

GEN HAMLETT CALLED ON GEN ZAKHAROV AUGUST 22. US POLAD BURNS AND ACTING SOV POLAD SHILOV PRESENT. AFTER USUAL AMENITIES IN QUITE CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE HAMLETT STATED HIS CONCERN THAT EAST GERMAN POLICE HARASSING OFFICIAL AMERICAN TRAVELERS ON HELMSTEDT AUTOBAHN BY STOPPING THEM FOR NO APPARENT REASON. GAVE DETAILS FAULKNER CASE AS EXAMPLE. OBSERVED TO ZAKHAROV IT IN MUTUAL INTEREST USSR AND USA AVOID UNNECESSARY IRRITATION, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW DANGER SERIOUS INCIDENT COULD DEVELOP WHICH NEITHER SIDE WANTED. SUGGESTED TO ZAKHAROV HE USE HIS INFLUENCE WITH EAST GERMAN POLICE TO ELIMINATE THIS HARASSMENT.

ZAKHAROV SEEMED SURPRISED TO LEARN OF THESE AUTOBAHN HARASSMENTS AND ASKED IF HAMLETT DID NOT HAVE IN MIND OFFICIAL AMERICAN TRAVELERS WHO HAD GOTTEN OFF THE AUTOBAHN. ZAKHAROV SAID THAT IF OFFICIAL TRAVELER WERE OFF THE AUTOBAHN SOV MILITARY NOT IN POSITION TO RENDER HIM ASSISTANCE. (ZAKHAROV THUS IMPLIED SOVS ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR OFFICIAL TRAVELERS ON AUTOBAHN - A VIEW DIRECTLY CONTRARY TO THAT EXPRESSED IN KOROL'S LETTER JUNE 26 - SEE BERLIN'S G-334 TO BONN, G-524 TO SECSTATE). HAMLETT REPLIED TO ZAKHAROV'S QUESTION IN NEGATIVE, ADDING THAT IN SOME CASES TRAVELERS WHO HAD GOTTEN OFF AUTOBAHN HAD ACTUALLY BEEN HELPED BY EAST GERMAN POLICE TO FIND THEIR WAY BACK.

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By BG MARA Date 10/76

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-2- 21<sup>4</sup>, AUGUST 24, 6 P.M., FROM BERLIN

ZAKHAROV CONCLUDED CONVERSATION BY INDICATING IN CAUTIOUS TERMS HE AGREED THAT HARASSMENTS HAMLETT DESCRIBED SEEMED UNNECESSARY AND HE WOULD LOOK INTO MATTER.

LIGHTNER

JS/21

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